



PRESS RELEASE

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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Governor Brown's Senior Jobs Advisor Announces Expansion of San Francisco Innovation Hub *Tours Bayer HealthCare Innovation Center*

SAN FRANCISCO – Governor Brown's Senior Advisor on jobs and business development Mike Rossi today announced the expansion of the San Francisco Innovation Hub (iHub) during a press conference at the Bayer HealthCare U.S. Innovation Center. Rossi was joined by Kish Rajan, the newly appointed Director of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) and Terry Hermiston of Bayer HealthCare.

Rossi announced that the state is expanding the current Mission Bay Innovation Hub beyond the existing boundaries to include the entire city of San Francisco. The expansion will now include members of San Francisco's well established BioTech, burgeoning HighTech & CleanTech industries as well as incorporate the City's innovative Fashion and art communities. The San Francisco iHub expansion serves to enhance the framework for inter-community collaboration around talent development and innovation required for future job creation.

GO-Biz Director Rajan also announced that the state will open the application process to designate three new iHubs, bringing the total to 15 statewide. To be eligible to receive a state iHub designation, groups must be able to illustrate regional partnerships which include industry, higher education, venture capital and workforce development that will help strengthen the innovation ecosystem in a particular sector as well as foster entrepreneurial growth opportunities within the region.

"California's innovation economy provides jobs for the future and advancements in science and technology that propel our state forward," said Mike Rossi. "The expansion of the San Francisco iHub is a product of the increasing diversity and dynamism of the private sector in the Bay Area and beyond."

"California has the nation's largest network of state sponsored Innovation Hubs stretching from Chico to San Diego, representing multiple facets of the California economy from agriculture to biotechnology," said GO-Biz Director Rajan. "The addition of

three new iHubs opens the door for more regions and burgeoning industries to harness the power of California's innovation network."

Last month, Mayor Edwin M. Lee proclaimed October 2012 as Innovation Month in San Francisco and sent a call to action to highlight the City's need to further embrace technology and catalyze greater job creation, community engagement and government efficiency through innovation. Bayer's U.S. Innovation Center opened in 2011 and has since become a centerpiece of the company's efforts to develop new technologies and scientific breakthroughs.

"Bayer chose to base our U.S. Innovation Center in Mission Bay because of the proximity to valuable corporate partners and a collaborative scientific community," said Terry Hermiston, Vice President of Biologics Research US and Site Head for the Bayer HealthCare U.S. Innovation Center. "The Innovation Hub program is essential to our efforts as we work with government, academia, and like-minded companies to ensure our community is competitive and realizes its full potential as we work to create life-changing therapies for patients."

After the press conference, the group toured the Bayer HealthCare Innovation Center which is home to 65 research scientists. The center's goal is to expand its global research network and build its specialty pharmaceutical pipeline. The model introduces a newly formed "Science Hub" for innovation sourcing in the U.S. creating collaborations with academic research scientists and small biotech firms to realize product development and commercialization of new therapies through partnerships with Bayer.

Additional participants included CEO of Urban Innovation Exchange, James Hanusa; Executive Director for the San Francisco Center for Economic Development, Dennis Conaghan and Sr. Vice President & Chief Scientific Officer of Nektar, Steve Doberstein.

Organizations interested in applying for one of the new iHub designation are required to submit an application to Louis Stewart, Deputy Director of the GO-Biz Innovation and Entrepreneurship unit, by February 28th 2013. (Gobiz.Innovation@gov.ca.gov)

The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) worked closely with officials from Bayer HealthCare and the California Biotechnology Foundation to organize today's event and highlight the incredible work being done in the Bay Area and around the state. GO-Biz serves as California's single point of contact for economic development and job creation efforts. GO-Biz offers a range of services to business owners including: attraction, retention and expansion services, site selection, permit streamlining, clearing of regulatory hurdles, small business assistance, international trade development, assistance with state government, and much more. For more information visit: www.business.ca.gov.

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